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of Representatives on October 18 and by the Senate on October 21. It was formally approved by the President on October 27, 1918.

By far the larger part of the reserve to be organized under this act will be on active duty only during times of national emergency, though it will probably be necessary to establish periodic terms of training, so as to better fit the officers for such service. With the passing of the emergency these men will automatically go on the inactive list; always, however, subject to call to active duty by the Surgeon General. Detailed plans for the organization, training, and assignment of the reserve officers are now under consideration.

VACCINES AGAINST INFLUENZA.

In view of the exaggerated and in some respects misleading statements that have appeared in the public press regarding the value of bacterial vaccines in the prevention and treatment of influenza and the pneumonias which so often complicate it, the following statement is made:

The evidence that has been presented thus far does not warrant the reposing of confidence in any influenza vaccine for either prophylactic or therapeutic purposes.

Several vaccine preparations made of the influenza bacillus, some from streptococci, some from various types of pneumococci and other organisms have been recommended and used in various localities, and evidence has been advanced which has been held to show that the number of persons attacked has been less and the deaths fewer among the vaccinated than among those who had not been treated. When, however, this evidence has been carefully analyzed it has been found that either there was no indication of protective or therapeutic value or there was no more than a suggestion that possibly some protection had been conferred.

At present it can be said that vaccines may be used in a purely experimental way and pains should be taken to collect data on the incidence of the disease among both the vaccinated and the unvaccinated.

GUARDING AGAINST PNEUMONIA BY VACCINATION.

Health officers will be interested in the following memorandum just issued to officers, enlisted men, and employees in the War Department.

"1. Vaccination against pneumonia has been given in two Army camps. At Camp Upton during the 10 weeks from the period of vaccination until the troops went overseas, no cases of pneumonia